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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT N

25X1A2g

REPORT NO.

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Belgium

25X1A2g

DATE DISTR. 6 Jan 1949

SUBJECT Training for Communist "Shock
Brigade" Leaders
25X1A6a

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SUPPLEMENT TO 25X1A2g
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1X6

1. "Commissaires" for the reactivated Communist "shock brigades", who have been recruited by the Belgian Communist Party, among youth group members, are being given fifteen-day political courses. The first course in the series began on 26 October and was taught by Remy Gillis, Secretary-General of the "Jeunesse Populaire de Belgique" and member of the BCP Central Committee.
2. Under the title, "Marxism and The Revolution", these lectures teach that every Party leader must know all the enemies of Communism in his area and organize his own groups which, in an emergency, could promptly immobilize these opponents. The Party's attempt to achieve this goal was tried against the Rexists before World War II and proved unsuccessful.
3. Other lecturers of the courses include Jules Vanderlinden, Bertha Pieterbourg, Central Committee member and wife of Communist Deputy Jean Borremans (see our [REDACTED]), and Bob Classsens, Central Committee member. Gymnastic training is under the direction of Gaston Matton. First aid training is supervised by Marie Bocca Erlich.
4. About thirty future "commissaires" had volunteered to take these courses. They stayed at various training camps, paying their own expenses which ran to sixty-seven francs daily per student, and received throughout each day alternate one-hour lectures and an hour of gymnastics.
5. The course was interrupted by All Saints holiday, and all of the volunteers were allowed to go to their homes. When they returned to the camps on 3 November to resume their studies, they again were sent home, and, for an unexplained reason, the course was suspended.
6. When students reported to the Rixensart Youth Camp on the first day of the course, they found a group of Jews there, all of whom suddenly departed for Godinne-sur-Meuse where another Communist youth hostel is located. This latter camp is directed by Georges Walgraeve.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

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DDA MEMO, 4 Apr 77

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7. Among the volunteers at the Rixensart camp were:

Georges Vantilborg;
Adrien Hendrickx;
Victor Lamborelle;
Felix Coenen;
Rik Heynders;
Georges Canivet;
Levy (fnu);
Emile Rames;
Backens (fnu);
Wandel, (fnu); and
Matelet (fnu).

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